

Message Text

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11

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 AGR-20 COME-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 AID-20 RSR-01 (ADP) W

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R 111010Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6949

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, SU

SUBJ: CCC CREDIT (WHEAT)

REF: A. KHARTOUM 1604; B. KHARTOUM 1683

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: GOS APPARENTLY MISINFORMED THAT USG HAS REFUSED ITS CCC WHEAT CREDIT REQUEST AND "CANCELED" ENTIRE CCC PROGRAM. CHARGE (USING JULY 31 BLAKE-HAMZA MEMCON) NOTED "SUSPENSION" TEMPORARY AND GOS REQUEST WILL BE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED AFTER US SUPPLY SITUATION CLARIFIED. GOS ASSUMES UNCOMMITTED PORTION ITS CURRENT CCC CREDIT STILL VALID. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING CALL BY CHARGE (AND AAO) ON MIN NAT'L ECON IB. MONEIM MANSOUR AUG 9 TO CONVEY US RESPONSE TO GOS REQUEST FOR DROUGHT ASSISTANCE, MIN NOTED HE UNDERSTOOD FROM GOS EMB WASHINGTON THAT SUDANESE CCC WHEAT CREDIT REQUEST HAD BEEN "TURNED DOWN" AND USG CCC PROGRAM "CANCELED". HE STRESSED GROWING IMPORTANCE OF WHEAT (BREAD) IN SUDANESE CONSUMPTION PATTERNS, INABILITY LOCAL PRODUCTION MEET MORE THAN A THIRD OF DEMAN, AND THAT US REFUSAL WOULD LEAVE SUDAN WITH "NOWHERE TO GO". HE NOTED WITH CONSIDERABLE DISTRESS THAT GOS PUBLISHED TENDERS (REFTEL B) HAD RECEIVED NO TRADE RESPONSE. CHARGE BRIEFLY REVIEWED DIFFICULT SUPPLY SITUATION IN US, NOTED HE UNINFORMED ANY US ACTION TO CANCEL CCC PROGRAM, BUT WOULD CHECK.

3. SUBSEQUENT POUCH DELIVERY PROVIDED COPY JULY 31 BLAKE-
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HAMZA MEMCON, CHARGE ACCORDINGLY TELEPHONE MIN NAT'L ECON AUG 11

AND INFORMED HIM USG HAS DECIDED SUSPEND TEMPORARILY--NOT CANCEL--CCC PROGRAM UNTIL SUPPLY SITUATION IN US IS CLARIFIED. ALTHOUGH WE COULD MAKE NO PREDICTION ON OUTCOME, GOS REQUEST WOULD BE CONSIDERED CAREFULLY WHEN SITUATION PERMITTED IN COMPETITION WITH OTHER REQUESTS. MIN EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE RELIEF THAT PROGRAM HAD ONLY BEEN TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED AND GOS PREPARED HAVE ITS REQUEST CONSIDERED ALONG WITH OTHERS.

4. CHARGE ALSO CALLED AUG 11 ON DIRGEN HASHIM OSMAN (WHO CONVEYED ORIGINAL GOS REQUEST) AND INFORMED HIM OF FOREGOING. HASHIM SAID HE APPRECIATED CLARIFICATION AND HAD BEEN QUITE CONCERNED OVER "DISCREPANCIES" BETWEEN CHARGE PRESENTATION (REFTEL B) AND HAMZA REPORT WHICH HAD BEEN "COMPLETELY NEGATIVE" AND INCLUDED COMMENT THAT "NOTHING HAD COME" OF HIS CALL ON DEPT.

5. FONMIN UNDERSEC FADL OBEID ASKED CHARGE TO CALL AUG 11 (SEPTTEL) TO DISCUSS IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES FOR EXPENDITURE EMERGENCY TRANSPORTATION FUNDS. HE NOTED URING MEETING THAT HASHIM OSMAN HAD BRIEFED HIM ON MY UNDERSTANDING OF HAMZA-BLAKE CONVERSATION. I THEN LET HIM READ THE MEMCON. HE COMMENTED HE WAS RELEIVED THERE HAD NOT BEEN USG "REFUSAL" AND THAT THERE WAS STILL SOME POSSIBILITY OF "HOPE".

6. COMMENT: NOTHING IN MY REMEDIAL PRESENTATION SHOULD CONTRIBUTE TO FALSE EXPECTATIONS, BUT I BELIEVE MATTER HAS BEEN PUT BACK INTO WHAT I UNDERSTAND IS PROPER PERSPECTIVE. GOS REACTION TO HAMZA REPORT IS, OF COURSE, PRECURSOR TO IMPACT ANY NEGATIVE USG DECISION COULD HAVE ON GOS. (GOS ALSO PROCEEDING ON ASSUMPTION UNEXPENDED PORTION ITS EARLIER CCC CREDIT STILL VALID.)
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